

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01003 251506Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 IO-13 PM-05 INR-10 SSO-00
/054 W

-----130631 251517Z /41

P 240930Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7986

S E C R E T LUSAKA 1003

STADIS//////////

FOR VANCE, MOOSE AND BENTON FROM AMBASSADOR YOUNG

PLEASE PASS TO BRZEZINSKI

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: MASS ZA
SUBJ: MILITARY ASSISTANCE FOR ZAMBIA

1. PRESIDENT KAUNDA INVITED ME TO A PRIVATE DINNER WITH HIM AND HIS FAMILY MARCH 24. THERE WAS NO CLEAR AGENDA, BUT AFTER DINNER IN A VERY RELAXED MANNER KAUNDA RAISED THE QUESTION OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

2. HE SAID THAT KISSINGER HAD DISCUSSED MILITARY ASSISTANCE WITH HIM IN APRIL 1976 BUT HE WAS RELUCTANT TO PURSUE THE IDEA BECAUSE HE DID NOT WANT TO ENCOURAGE EAST-WEST RIVALRY. RECENT RAIDS INTO ZAMBIA HAVE PROVOKED QUESTION ABOUT ZAMBIA'S DEFENSE NEEDS IN THE PRESS. KAUNDA SIMPLY RAISED THE QUESTION OF HOW HE MIGHT NOW APPROACH U.S. FOR MILITARY ASSISTANCE.

3. KAUNDA DID NOT SEEM TO HAVE MADE ANY DECISION WHETHER TO MAKE THE REQUEST OR TO HAVE DISCUSSED IT WITH THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF CABINET.

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4. I WAS NOT ENCOURAGING, AND REFERRED TO PRESENT POLICY OF LIMITING ARMS TRANSFERS. I TOLD HIM MATTER COULD BE RAISED FORMALLY WITH AMBASSADOR LOW OR DURING PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON IN MAY.
LOW

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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